

DC COMICS  
VERTIGO

No. 1  
1994

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Gallery of Dreams



with an Introduction  
BY NEIL  
GAIMAN



# A GALLERY OF DREAMS

## THE SANDMAN: A GALLERY OF DREAMS

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PAGE 10

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PAGE 11

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PAGES 12-13

SIMON BISLEY\*\*†

PAGE 14

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PAGE 15

MARK CHIARELLO

PAGE 16

ALEX ROSS

PAGE 17

BILL KOEB

PAGE 18

MIKE MIGNOLA†

PAGE 19

MALCOLM JONES III\*\*†

PAGE 20

KELLEY JONES

PAGE 21

JON J MUTH

PAGE 22

JEFF SMITH\*\*†

PAGE 23

TONY HARRIS

PAGE 24

COLLEEN DORAN

PAGE 25

GAHAN WILSON

PAGE 26

ALISON SEIFFER

PAGE 27

TOM TAGGART

PAGE 28

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PAGE 29

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PAGE 30

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PAGE 31

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PAGE 32

INTRODUCTION BY NEIL GAIMAN  
INSIDE BACK COVER

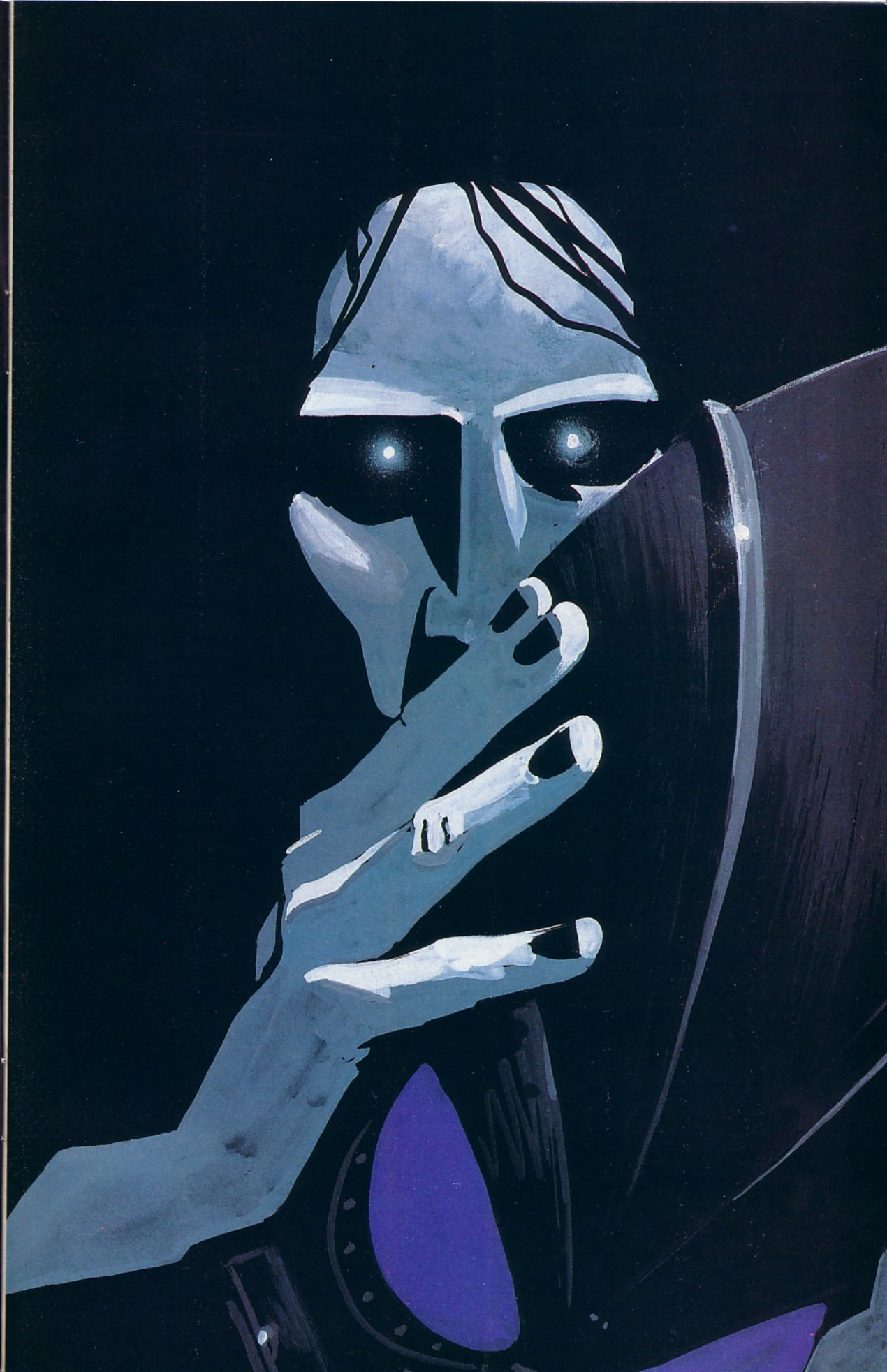
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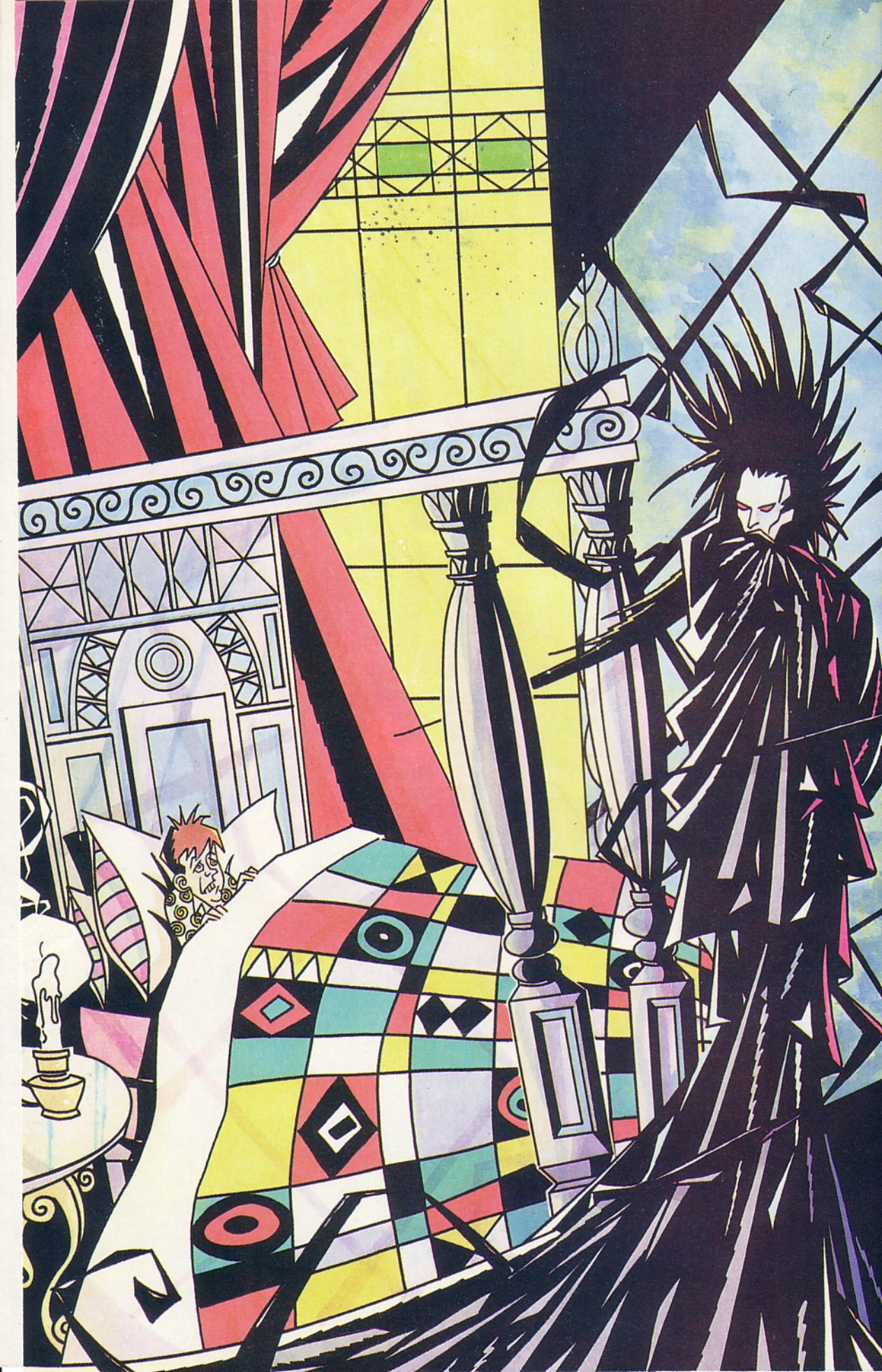






ROLLAND



















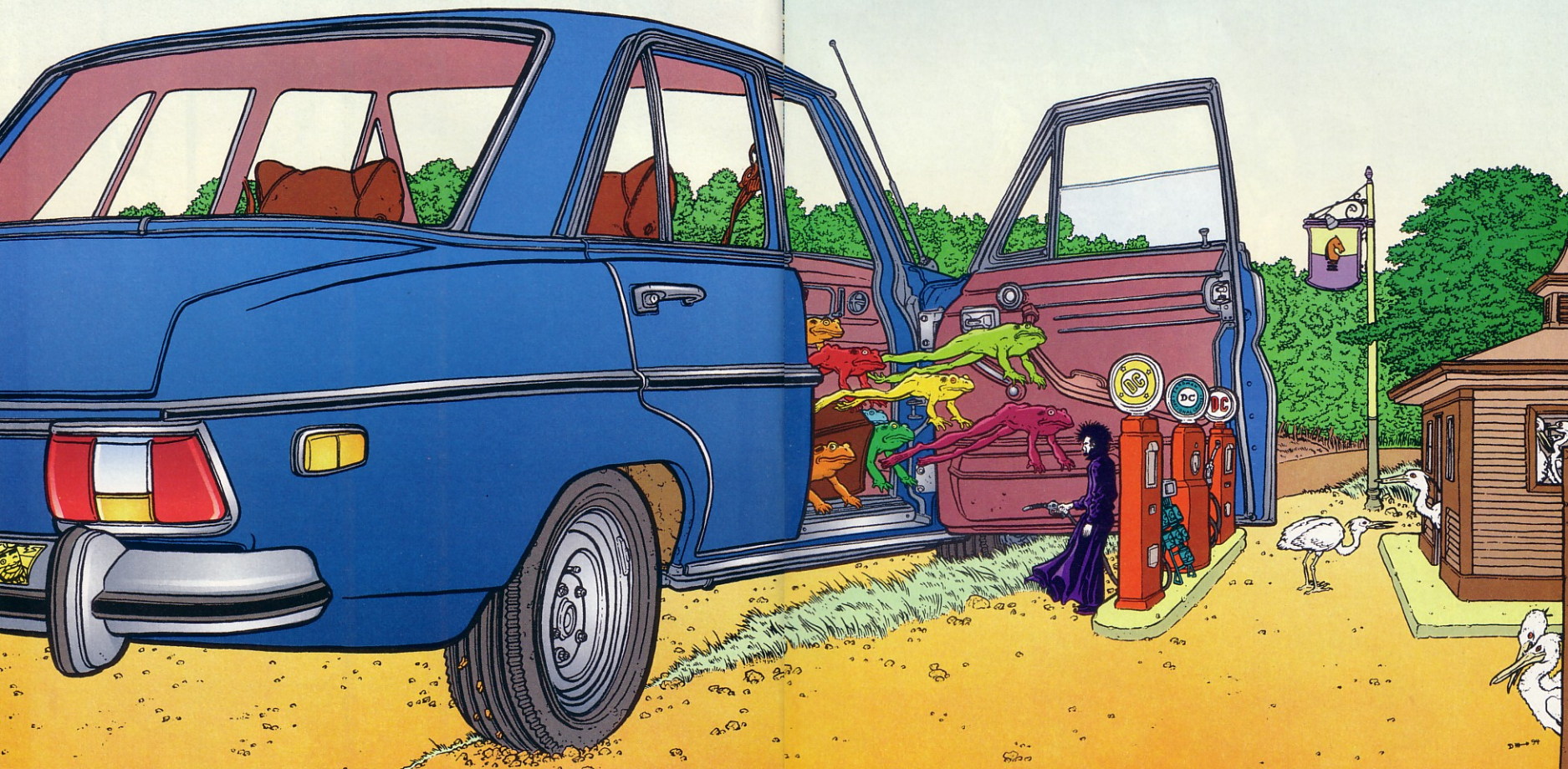






"PORTRAIT OF AN AESTHETIC GENTLEMAN", Artist Unknown. Mixed Media, 1889.









Bisley 94./LOVERN













Chap. 10



# MORPHEUS

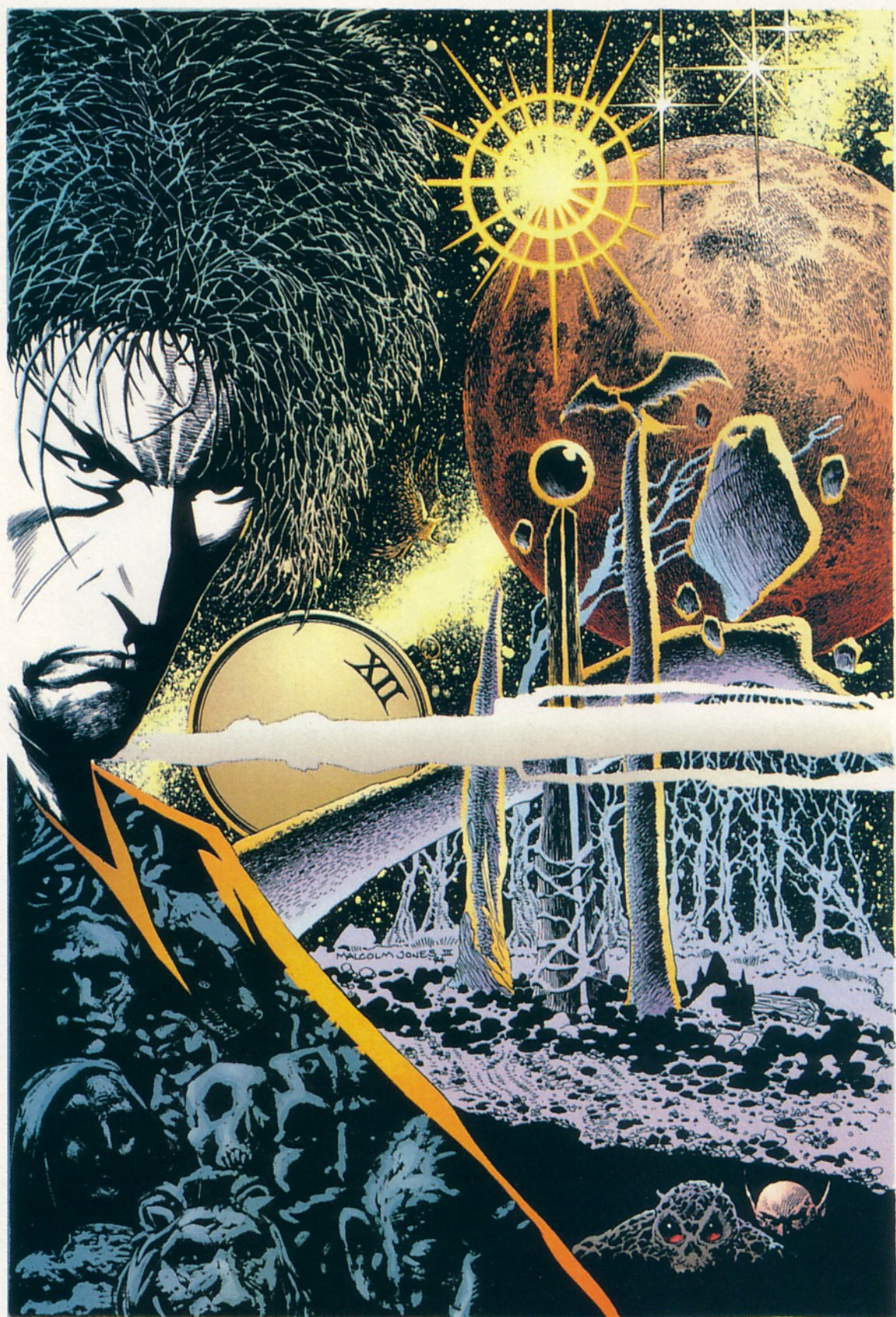


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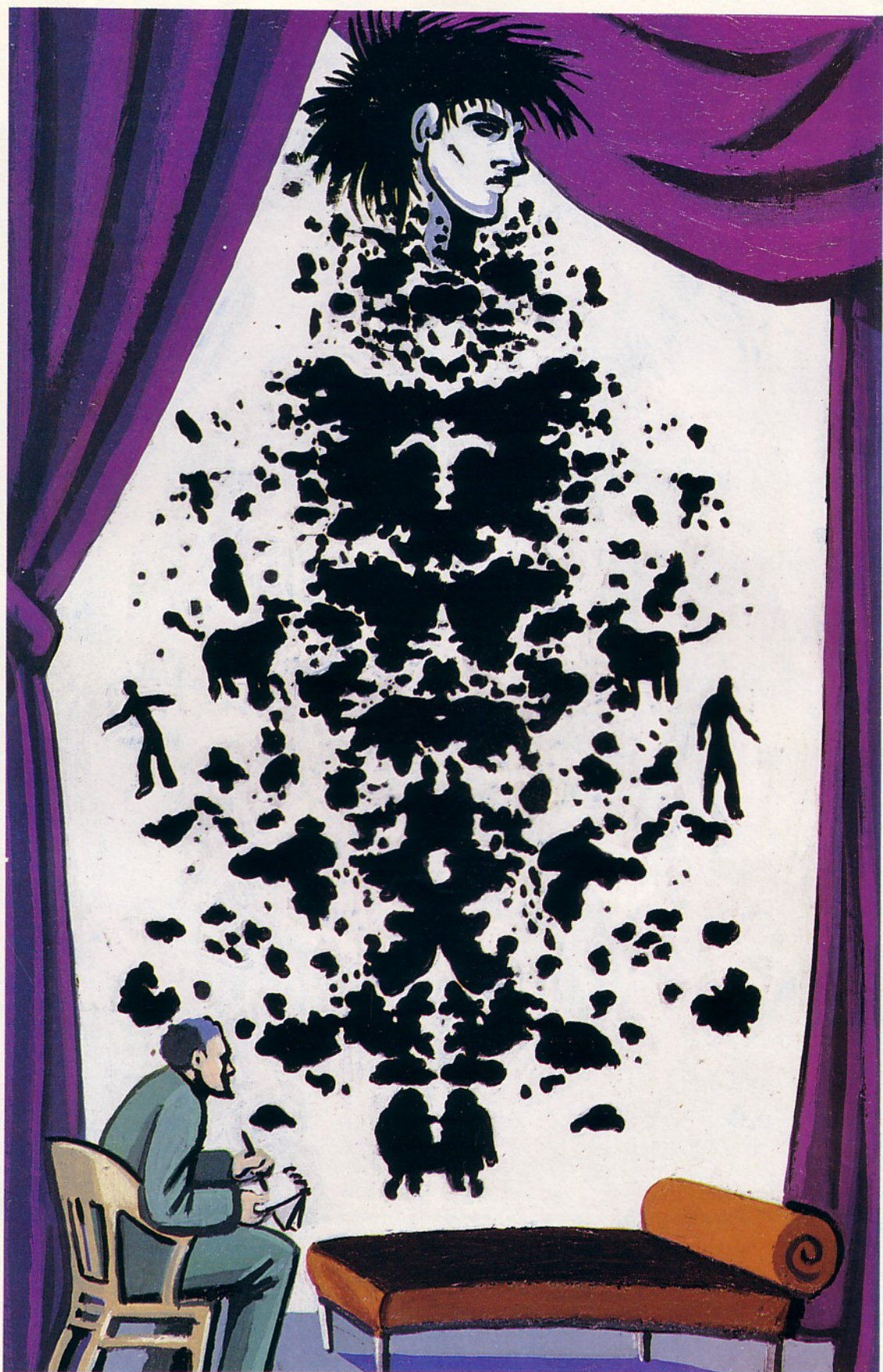
















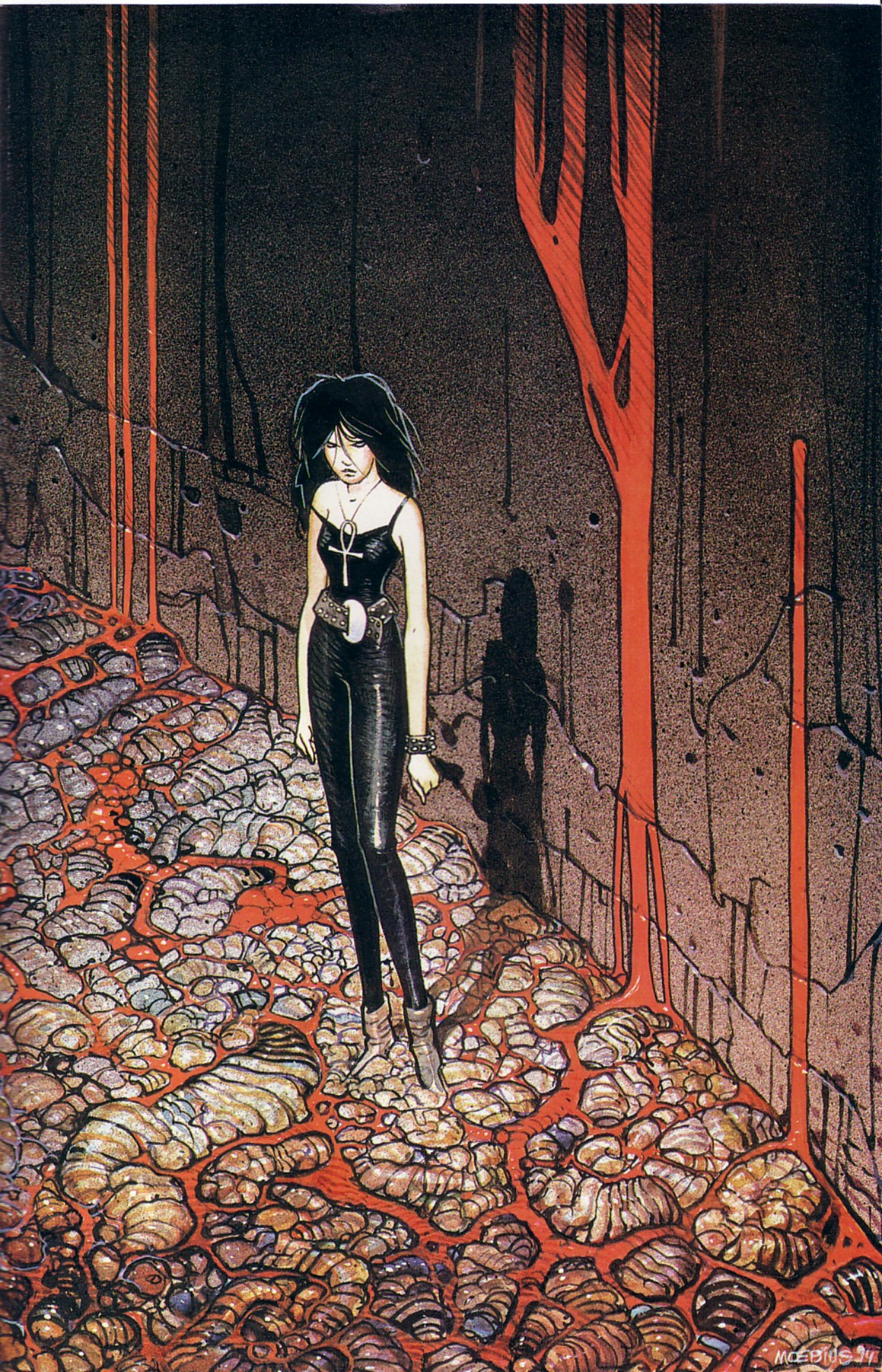














"FOR SOME OF YOU THERE ARE PRESENT  
ARE WORSE THAN DEVILS"







NEIL GAIMAN'S DOODLES OF  
THE SANDMAN FROM  
OCTOBER/NOVEMBER, 1987

As we approach the end, it is a disconcerting process to return to the beginning, to look at the places we started.

A year ago we made a Gallery for Death, inspected the places she came from. Her brother is harder to fathom, and his creation is harder to inspect: I've been hunting for the original outline, for a copy of the first SANDMAN script, and finding nothing, or only fragments of computer files, rough-printed pages of old scripts retained because I'd jotted notes to myself on the back. DC's copies have long since been thrown away.

Remembering the creation of the character now, and his early evolution, I remember only the 1987 hurricane and its aftermath: dark autumnal rooms lit by grey daylight or flickering candles, and I would write, and sketch little doodle-people, until even that became impossible, and I would find myself forced simply to sit, and to think.

The original notebook from those times remains, though. I found it some months ago in a box in the basement: it's like a time machine. Notes on the first eight stories (and for ones I never wrote: I never wrote the Hand of Glory story, for example, and I wonder now whether "The Brothel of Succubi" was the story that eventually turned into "Calliope"); there's a failed attempt to write a sestina to be formed by Lucifer's dialogue in SANDMAN #4 (in the same way that Squatterbloat the Gatekeeper's dialogue was successfully to form two triolets), and dozens of little sketches of the Sandman ("who is known by other names, such as Morpheus, or the Oneiromancer" it says in a note, although only Mad Hettie ever called him the Oneiromancer, and that not to his face).

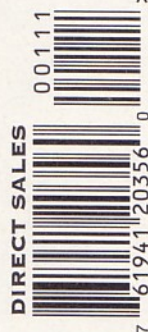
I showed the sketches to Karen Berger, my editor, in January 1988, the night we rang Sam Kieth to find out if he wanted to draw a new monthly comic. Looking at them today I find myself surprised at how little the character has changed, visually, since before the beginning; although he has been better drawn.

And I find myself delighted that he and his family have acted as inspiration for this gallery. Dream himself is above being impressed by this sort of thing, and would take it as his due; I, on the other hand, find something magical in his continual reinterpretation, and I am easily impressed, both by how far he has come, and how little he has changed.

NEIL GAIMAN



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